

hides were necessarily imported. At present the makers are endeavoring to develop the trade of the world in light leathers, the supplies of Australia even. The drawback could not be availed, however, as the imported hides were divided up into different classes of goods, and it would not be practicable to ascertain what portion of them were actually of the Western cattleman and farmer and better prices for their hides they should take some care to prepare for the market. Now they branded them thereby destroying a considerable part of their value, and by careless slaughtering they killed the hide when they killed the cattle. If the duty was imposed, although the ultimate effect might be to maintain existing prices, it would tend to increase the trade would be demoralized for eighteen months or two years. A trade war beginning in shoes with the countries which have supplied us with hides, and the point had just been reached where the American shoe manufacturer was able to compete with the European maker, and this trade will be checked by the duty.

#### WAGE-WORKERS' BANK BILL.

Somehow Novel Measure for Establishment of a National Banking System.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—By request, Senator Ingalls to-day introduced a bill providing for a system of banking by the United States government. The bill is known as the "Wage-workers' Bank Bill." It provides for the establishment of an executive department of banking, with a secretary at its head, whose salary shall be \$8,000, and four assistant secretaries, with salaries of \$5,000 each. At the department the banking for the people shall be done free of charge, except a nominal fee for the use of the bank. Branches shall be established at postoffices throughout the country, and maintained so long as they are found to be of benefit to the community. The interest payable on the bill of December every year. Failure to pay interest shall terminate the loan, and after the sale of the security the excess over the loan, if any, shall be paid to the borrower. The money shall be loaned to the borrower on the security of the property of the borrower. The money shall be loaned to the borrower on the security of the property of the borrower. The money shall be loaned to the borrower on the security of the property of the borrower.

#### MINOR MATTERS.

State Dinners and Receptions at the White House.—The President's Stroll.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—Tuesday evening the President and Mrs. Harrison will give the third state dinner of the course, which is proposed in February, to the justices of the Supreme Court. Fifty invitations have been sent out for the dinner, which is expected to be one of the largest of the year. Mrs. Harrison will hold her third drawing-room reception on Saturday afternoon, from 3 to 5 o'clock, at the White House. This is also one of the events postponed from the official season.

The President and Mr. Halford took a long walk up Pennsylvania avenue at half-past 2 o'clock this afternoon. The weather was bright and the sidewalks were crowded with many persons appeared without overcoats or wraps. The President met many old friends, whom he greeted cordially.

#### Another National Election Bill.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—A conference of the Republican members of the Senate committee on privileges and elections was held to-day, as a result of which the House was requested to prepare a bill to regulate elections of members of Congress.

It is understood that the measure to be proposed will provide for the appointment of national supervisors in every district in which a certain number of voters shall petition, therefore, these supervisors shall watch and count the vote, and make a certification thereof to a State board of canvassers. The bill also provides for the regulation of election to the candidate receiving the highest number of votes, and these certificates shall be used by the Clerk of the House in making up the roll of members-elect.

#### Favorable Report on the McComas Bill.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—By a party vote of 5 to 3 the House committee on the election of President and Vice-President and Representatives in Congress, to-day authorized a favorable report, with amendments, on the McComas bill, to prevent re-election of a President or Vice-President.

#### Important Military Appointments.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—The President to-day sent to the Senate the following nominations: Lewis A. Grant, of Minnesota, to be Assistant Secretary of War; Brigadier-General Nelson A. Miles, to be Major-General; Col. Benjamin H. Grierson, Tenth Cavalry, to be brigadier-general; Henry Flad, of Missouri, civil engineer, member of the Mississippi river commission; W. H. Harlow, postmaster at Rochelle, Ill.

#### Senate confirmations.

Senate confirmations: Clarence D. Clarke, associate justice of the Supreme Court of Wyoming; John C. Mitchell, pension agent at Columbus, O.; Edward H. Harvey, pension agent at Detroit; Charles S. Kelsey, Indian agent at Green Bay, Wis.

#### Lieutenant Steele's Case.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—The record of the proceedings in the case of Lieutenant Steele, recently tried by court-martial for an assault on private Wild, was received by Major-General Schofield, this morning, and was referred to Acting Judge Advocate-General Lieber for examination and report. The case will afterwards be reviewed by General Schofield, and acted upon by him finally, unless the sentence is one of dismissal, in which case the case will be dismissed on the part of the President. The sentence of the court will not be made known officially until the case has been acted upon.

#### Indiana Fourth-Class Postmasters.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—Fourth-class postmasters for Indiana were appointed to-day as follows: Hamrick, Putnam county; L. Mercer, vice L. Mercer, resigned; John Sullivan, Warren county; A. J. Johnson, vice J. C. Smith, resigned; W. H. West, resigned; Sanborn, Knox county; J. W. Hill, vice W. Sanborn, resigned.

#### General Notes.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Snow, of Indianapolis, are at the Riggs.

Hon. John M. Butler, of Indianapolis, is at the Riggs.

Hon. J. Oliver, of South Bend, is here with his son-in-law, ex-representative Ford.

The Treasury Department to-day received \$250,000 from the sale of bonds.

Mrs. Franklyn W. Fish and Mrs. M. S. Smith, of Chicago, representing the Woman's Foreign Missionary societies of several States, were before the Senate committee on alcoholic liquor traffic to-day and asked the committee to recommend legislation authorizing the State Department to enter into negotiations with foreign governments looking to the prohibition of the exportation of liquors to the Congo country.

#### Business Embarrassments.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., April 5.—A schedule of the condition of C. E. Cottrell & Co., insolvent, in the hands of the receiver, to-day. It shows total assets of \$20,000, and liabilities of \$67,000. The heaviest creditor is the National City Bank of New York, for \$10,000.

HUNTINGTON, Pa., April 5.—Caleb Wakefield, a leading farmer of Brady township, this county, made an assignment to-day for the benefit of his creditors. Liabilities, \$10,000.

### SCHEMINGS OF AUTOCRAT

Reasons Given for the Czar's Attempt to Throttle the Liberties of the Finns.

One More Step in Russia's Covetous Longings for Sweden and Norway—Chinese Military Operations on the Western Border.

Indications that Germany Will Soon Be the Ruling Power in Central Africa.

Sir Samuel Baker's Views on the Alliance of Wismann and Emin Pasha—Ex-Emperor Dom Pedro's Illness Takes a Serious Turn.

RUSSIA AND THE FINNS.

Why the Czar is Anxious to Russify the People of Finland.

(Copyright, 1890, by the United Press.)

LONDON, April 5.—The scheme to convert Finland from a free state, with the Czar as constitutional sovereign, into a Russian province, with the Czar as autocrat, excites considerable attention in Europe. People generally have had their eyes fixed upon Russian operations in the Danubian provinces, and on the Dardanelles, to the neglect of the encroachments of the czar and his Russian ally, the Czar of Russia.

Russia is feared by Sweden not less than by Turkey, and Sweden looks to England, just as the Sultan does, for protection from the grasp of the Muscovite despot. The Scandinavians are not united in feeling, for reasons apparent to the student of their history. Between Russia and Denmark there has for ages existed a strong sympathy, while Russia and Denmark regard Sweden, both with unfriendly, and the former with covetous eyes.

Russification of the Finns, therefore, means a step towards the Czar's advance towards an attack upon Sweden and Norway. Finland was a part of Sweden for centuries. Russia first annexed one-half, and in 1809 seized the other half; but not until after a heroic struggle, which is commemorated in the grandest Scandinavian epic of this age. The eyes of Europe were at the time upon Napoleon, otherwise the Russian conquest of Finland would have held a place in history with the throttling of freedom in Poland. Some of the incidents of the war between Russia and Sweden, as when one Finnish soldier held a narrow bridge for many minutes against a large force of Russian soldiers, falling just as the Swedish army came up to the post which his valor had saved for them; compare with the noblest achievements on record. A people of this kind will not yield their liberties without a struggle.

The western portion of Finland is chiefly settled by the Swedish race, and most of these would either fight or emigrate, as a protest against the Russian advance, should the Russian advance be permitted.

From Shanghai comes the statement that the Chinese are strengthening themselves on the northern frontier against an anticipated attack by Russia. China for several years has been increasing her military forces, and has been erecting at points most likely to be threatened by Russian invasion. Chinese troops have been sent to the border of the empire into immediate action in the event of a war with Russia, while the population to be drawn upon for resistance is not limited.

No word comes from St. Petersburg as to whether there is ground for the rumors of a Russian advance, or whether Russia is in the habit of publishing to the world either her foreign or domestic policy. Besides, the Czar has not yet given his generals to undertake movements that meant or led to war, and all three were dead. The bodies were badly bruised and mangled, and the remains were taken to Santa Barbara.

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### GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

Dom Pedro's Illness Takes a Critical Turn.—Last Sacraments Administered.

CANES, April 5.—The illness from which Dom Pedro, the deposed Emperor of Brazil, is suffering, has assumed a critical phase. He was in a comatose state during the greater part of yesterday. His condition was so serious that the doctors were unable to administer the last sacraments of the church. His physician, Prof. Charcot, of Paris, says, however, that though his weakness is extreme, he is in no immediate danger. The Prince of Wales, who has just arrived at Cannes, has paid a visit to Dom Pedro.

The ex-emperor revived to-day and is improving. Professor Charcot has left here for Paris.

### SUICIDE OF A MILLIONAIRE.

Death of a Favorite Daughter Causes a Rich Chicagoan to Shoot Himself.

CHICAGO, April 5.—Marcus C. Stearns, one of Chicago's oldest and wealthiest residents, attempted suicide at his Michigan avenue residence to-day. He fired four bullets into his head, producing wounds from which recovery is impossible. One shot fired into the mouth almost split the tongue to pieces. The members of his family were also shocked by the deed. The deceased was a favorite daughter of the late Mr. Stearns, who had been in the city for some time. Mr. Stearns has been in the city for some time. Mr. Stearns has been in the city for some time. Mr. Stearns has been in the city for some time.

CHICAGO, April 5.—The events of the week have accentuated even more than the resignation of the Chancellor the new era that is opening in German history. Until his departure the public was loath to believe that the Emperor was in earnest in parting with Bismarck. Doubt is no longer possible, and apathy has yielded to an unwelcome desire to do homage to the departing statesman. Henceforth attention will be divided between two theaters—Friedrichsruhe, representing the grandeur of the edifice of German unity, and Berlin, the temple of a new and untried regime. It is impossible that the Emperor could have been an unaffected spectator of the unending tributes of adulation the public was loath to believe that the Emperor was in earnest in parting with Bismarck. Doubt is no longer possible, and apathy has yielded to an unwelcome desire to do homage to the departing statesman. Henceforth attention will be divided between two theaters—Friedrichsruhe, representing the grandeur of the edifice of German unity, and Berlin, the temple of a new and untried regime. It is impossible that the Emperor could have been an unaffected spectator of the unending tributes of adulation the public was loath to believe that the Emperor was in earnest in parting with Bismarck. Doubt is no longer possible, and apathy has yielded to an unwelcome desire to do homage to the departing statesman. Henceforth attention will be divided between two theaters—Friedrichsruhe, representing the grandeur of the edifice of German unity, and Berlin, the temple of a new and untried regime. It is impossible that the Emperor could have been an unaffected spectator of the unending tributes of adulation the public was loath to believe that the Emperor was in earnest in parting with Bismarck. Doubt is no longer possible, and apathy has yielded to an unwelcome desire to do homage to the departing statesman. Henceforth attention will be divided between two theaters—Friedrichsruhe, representing the grandeur of the edifice of German unity, and Berlin, the temple of a new and untried regime. It is impossible that the Emperor could have been an unaffected spectator of the unending tributes of adulation the public was loath to believe that the Emperor was in earnest in parting with Bismarck. Doubt is no longer possible, and apathy has yielded to an unwelcome desire to do homage to the departing statesman. Henceforth attention will be divided between two theaters—Friedrichsruhe, representing the grandeur of the edifice of German unity, and Berlin, the temple of a new and untried regime. It is impossible that the Emperor could have been an unaffected spectator of the unending tributes of adulation the public was loath to believe that the Emperor was in earnest in parting with Bismarck. Doubt is no longer possible, and apathy has yielded to an unwelcome desire to do homage to the departing statesman. Henceforth attention will be divided between two theaters—Friedrichsruhe, representing the grandeur of the edifice of German unity, and Berlin, the temple of a new and untried regime. It is impossible that the Emperor could have been an unaffected spectator of the unending tributes of adulation the public was loath to believe that the Emperor was in earnest in parting with Bismarck. Doubt is no longer possible, and apathy has yielded to an unwelcome desire to do homage to the departing statesman. Henceforth attention will be divided between two theaters—Friedrichsruhe, representing the grandeur of the edifice of German unity, and Berlin, the temple of a new and untried regime. It is impossible that the Emperor could have been an unaffected spectator of the un